

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 246096

73

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DRAFTED BY EA/ANP:JCDORRANCE:JAW

APPROVED BY EA:RLSNEIDER

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EA/J:RLDANKERT

DOD/ISA - COL. GRANGER

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INTERIOR/OMSN - MR. LOFTUS (INF.)

L/SCI - MR. MAURER

EA/ANP:LJMOSE

SCI:WCHAPIN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 246096

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: US, JA, MARR, TQ, TSPA

SUBJECT: JAPANESE LAUNCH VEHICLE TRACKING ON KWAJALEIN

REF: (A) STATE 242269

(B) STATUS LNO 211 (CINCPACREP 150845Z DEC 73)

(NOTAL)

CINCPACREP PASS TO STATUS LNO TRENT, SAIPAN, FOR
AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS

1. ALTHOUGH WE ARE FULLY AWARE PROBLEMS THAT HAVE ARISEN
FROM WAR CLAIMS AGREEMENT, AND OF SENSITIVITY YOUR NEGOTIA-
TIONS WITH MICRONESIANS FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS RESPONSIBILI-
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PAGE 02 STATE 246096

TIES UNDER A FREE ASSOCIATION RELATIONSHIP, WE CANNOT

CONCUR IN PARALLELS DRAWN AND CONCLUSIONS CITED REFTEL B. FOLLOWING IS OUR REASONING KEYED TO NUMBERED PARAS REFTEL B.

2. PARA ONE. REFTEL A PROVIDED PRECISELY THE ADVANCE NOTICE YOU SUGGEST WAS NECESSARY. WE DO REGRET IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO PROVIDE MORE NOTICE, BUT ALSO ARE SOMEWHAT SURPRISED OUR INSTRUCTION NOT ACTED UPON IMMEDIATELY ON RECEIPT. WE UNDERSTAND NO ACTION HAD BEEN TAKEN AS OF DECEMBER 15 YOUR TIME.

3. PARA TWO. ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO PRESENT FIRM REQUIREMENT TO CONSULT WITH MICRONESIANS ON ALL FOREIGN AFFAIRS ISSUES, WE ACCEPT PRINCIPLE THAT IT IS IN OUR INTERESTS TO DO SO WHENEVER MICRONESIAN INTERESTS ARE DIRECTLY AFFECTED. HOWEVER, SUBJECT AGREEMENT WILL IN NO WAY AFFECT MICRONESIAN INTERESTS. IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, ADVICE TO MARSHALLESE LEADERSHIP IS CONSIDERED AN IMPORTANT COURTESY, AND NOT A NECESSITY.

4. PARA THREE. WE DO NOT SEE PARALLEL DRAWN WITH WAR CLAIMS AGREEMENT. LATTER AGREEMENT DIRECTLY AFFECTED MICRONESIAN CONCERNS, AND ESPECIALLY THEIR POCKET BOOKS. AS POINTED OUT ABOVE, TRACKING AGREEMENT DOES NOT EFFECT THEIR INTERESTS, BUT IT DOES CONTRIBUTE TO PEACEFUL EXPLORATION SPACE OF GENERAL BENEFIT TO MANKIND, AND DOES THIS THROUGH USE OF EXISTING US DEFENSE INSTALLATION. WE ALSO DO NOT FIND THAT NEITHER OMSN OR HICOM OFFICE WHOLLY UNAWARE THIS PROJECT. IT WAS SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION IN HICOM'S OFFICE AT LEAST TWO YEARS AGO, AND MATTER WAS REPORTED ON FROMPOLAD OFFICE TO INTERIOR AND OMSN AT THAT TIME. UNDERSTAND INTERIOR HAS DISCUSSED PROJECT WITH HICOM. REGARDING DIFFICULTY INFORMING MARSHALLESE LEADERS, WE DO NOT HAVE IN MIND OR BELIEVE IT NECESSARY ADVISE MARSHALLESE SCATTERED THROUGHOUT MARSHALLESE ATOLLS, BUT RATHER ONLY CONCERNED LEADERSHIP ON KWAJALEIN AND MAJURO. ONE WEEK SHOULD HAVE SUFFICED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

5. PARA FOUR. REGARDING POSSIBLE POLITICAL EXPLOITATION OF AGREEMENT, WE SUGGEST THAT THOSE WHO WILL BE DOING CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 246096

THE EXPLOITING, IF ANY, WOULD BE HARD PUT TO OBJECT TO USE OF KWAJALEIN FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES AS AGAINST NORMAL MILITARY USE. WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT MOST MARSHALLESE LEADERS WILL READILY PERCEIVE THIS POINT, AND THAT ANY WHO MIGHT CHOOSE TO ATTACK AGREEMENT (E.G. ATAJI BALOS) COULD NOT BE SATISFIED BY ANY AMOUNT OF ADVANCE CONSULTATIONS.

6. PARA FIVE. THEREFORE WE FIND NO BASIS FOR RECONSIDERATION OF OR

SIGNIFICANT DELAY IN EXCHANGE OF NOTES, PRESENTLY CONTEMPLATED FOR MIDDLE OR LATE THIS WEEK. AGREEMENT, WHICH WAS CLEARED THROUGHOUT US GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING INTERIOR DEPT., IS OF IMPORTANCE TO JAPAN, AND TO OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIPS IN AREA OF SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION. IMPLEMENTATION THROUGH NOTE EXCHANGE CANNOT BE DELAYED OWING JAPANESE PARLIAMENTARY AND BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS WHICH WE ACCEPT AS LEGITIMATE. BY SEPTTEL WE WILL TRANSMIT TO YOU TEXT OF NOTES.

7. PARA SIX. REFTTEL A TRANSMITTED UNCLASSIFIED IN ORDER PROVIDE TO YOU AS MUCH ADVANCE NOTICE AS POSSIBLE. PROJECT AND CONTENTS THAT MESSAGE ENTIRELY UNCLASSIFIED.

8. ABOVE MESSAGE CONCURRED IN BY INTERIOR AND DEFENSE.

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